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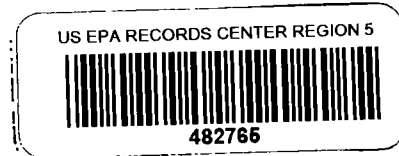
MEMORANDUM of Interview

Site: Johns Manville
Waukegan, IL

Date: May 8, 1998

From: Mike R Rafati, Enforcement Specialist
Margaret Herring, Civil Investigator

To: File



Interview Date and Time: April 3, 1998 at 2:15 p.m.

Spoke with: [REDACTED], Site Supervisor at Construction of Rifle Range
Marenisco, MI 49947 (located 55 miles north of Minoqua, WI)
Telephone: [REDACTED]

Present at the Interview: [REDACTED], Principal Engineer, Johns Manville
Mike R Rafati, Enforcement Specialist, U.S. EPA
Margaret Herring, Civil Investigator, U.S. EPA

Conference Call Participants: Bruce Ray, Legal Counsel, John Manville
Tim Smith, Environmental Engineer, Johns Manville
Beth Wallace, Office of the Illinois Attorney General (AGI)
Stan Yukowski, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Subject: Construction of the Rifle Range in Waukegan, IL for the Pan American Games

[REDACTED] Credentials:

[REDACTED] is [REDACTED] and a native of Lake County. [REDACTED] grew up on a farm not far from the Great Lakes Naval Station. [REDACTED] began work in the construction industry as a surveyor on layouts and excavations. [REDACTED] worked for Eric Bolander Construction of Libertyville for more than 31 years. [REDACTED] progressed to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] retired [REDACTED]. The Bolander Construction firm has been dissolved.

[REDACTED] was visiting a relative in a Waukegan hospital when, by chance, he met an employee of Johns Manville. The Johns Manville employee mentioned that asbestos material was washing up on the Lake Michigan beaches of northern Illinois and an old rifle range may be the source of the asbestos. [REDACTED] told the Johns Manville employee that he had worked on the construction of the [REDACTED] and would make himself available to respond to questions.

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Construction of the Rifle Range:

Bolander Construction assigned [REDACTED] to work as the project superintendent on the rifle range built for the 1959 Pan American games held in Chicago that year. [REDACTED] said that construction of the rifle range occurred the same year as Queen Elizabeth traveled to Chicago and Milwaukee on the royal yacht. For six weeks [REDACTED] worked on the construction of the rifle range. He was there for the site layout, excavation, and construction of the berms and for excavation of the buildings' foundations. [REDACTED] was not at the rifle range site when the buildings were constructed.

Hagland and Ames Construction of Waukegan constructed the buildings on the rifle range. [REDACTED], her father was an owner of Hagland and Ames Construction, ramrodded the building construction at the rifle range. [REDACTED] believes that [REDACTED] may still live in the Lake County area. [REDACTED] is 15 to 20 years older than [REDACTED]. Hagland and Ames Construction has gone into bankruptcy.

During the late 1950s Chicago hosted the Pan American games. Mayor Sobijian of Waukegan volunteered some beach front land for construction of a rifle range for use in the Pan Am games. This project was slow to get started. As the Pan Am Games drew near, building the rifle range became a priority, and Mayor Sobijian did some arm twisting to get local companies and contractors involved in the rifle range project.

The military was also involved. [REDACTED] said that an Army major was in charge of building the rifle range. [REDACTED] cannot remember the name of the major; he does not know where the major was stationed or his service affiliation. [REDACTED] observed that the major had connections; any problem that arose, the major called Washington and all stops were pulled out in response to his call. The major was so influential that all he had to do was to make a phone call to have equipment flown in for use on the project. Skilled laborers and equipment were at his disposal. [REDACTED] said that the orders were to get the rifle range completed so that embarrassment could be avoided.

As an example of the major's ability to get things done, [REDACTED] cited the major securing replacement parts for a Garwood scoop used on the project. The Garwood scoop, which was manufactured in California, was used to move and dump sand. The scoop was operated by pulleys attached to a metal shaft. The placement of the pulleys was such that the lines that ran through the pulleys and operated the scoop were continually wearing thin and breaking. For some reason, which [REDACTED] does not know, the Garwood scoop had to be used on the construction project. The major was able to get replacement parts flown in from California whenever the parts were needed.

According to [REDACTED] the construction site of the rifle range was filled with activity. Recruits from the Great Lakes Naval Station worked as laborers and laid sod. Navy welders constructed metal

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structures in the rifle pits. The framing was built of galvanized piping and this, [REDACTED] said, was a dangerous material to weld. [REDACTED] remembered that the Navy welders did not wear the appropriate safety equipment for the job.

[REDACTED] cannot recall any Navy officer exercising authority in the construction of the rifle pits.

Lake County prisoners also worked at the construction site. [REDACTED] remembers driving to Kenosha with a tractor and lowboy and a crew of the Lake County prisoners to pick up a load of railroad ties for use in the construction of retaining walls.

Equipment and Operators:

Mayor Sobijian twisted arms of local firms for contributions of equipment, materials, and services. The Army and Navy supplied Caterpillars and the Navy also supplied scoops. The National Guard supplied a lowboy. Eric Bolander Construction lent a scoop that was pulled by a tractor.

At the time that the rifle range was under construction, Bates and Rogers, a local construction firm, was working on a time and materials project at the Commonwealth Edison generating plant south of the Johns Manville plant. [REDACTED] said that the Bates and Rogers crew would sometimes be standing around at Comm Ed. If the Bates and Rogers crew wasn't working on the Comm Ed project, the crew and its equipment would come over to the rifle range construction site. The Bates and Rogers crew would work on the construction of the rifle pits from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

[REDACTED] hired the equipment operators and other construction workers needed beyond those provided by the military, Lake County, and the contractors contributing equipment and crews.

Contributions of Materials:

Touhy's Trucking & Construction was constructing an overpass between Washington and Grand Streets. Touhy's Trucking hauled into the rifle pit construction site fill from its overpass construction project. Touhy also brought in clay from an excavation at Golf and Greenwood. [REDACTED] said that he believes that Touhy Trucking & Construction was paid for the materials that it contributed; Touhy never did anything for nothing.

[REDACTED] said that Johns Manville had contributed material that was spread on the surface, which was sand, so that trucks and construction equipment could be moved around the construction site. Most of the material spread to assist movement of the equipment was shingle tabs.

Johns Manville also contributed debris that was used for fill in the construction of the berm.

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Transite sheeting, a siding material, was in the debris. The debris included a wide range of materials, anything that Johns Manville would have sent to its dump. In response to a question about the amount of material that Johns Manville contributed, [REDACTED] did not give an estimate. [REDACTED] said that whenever and wherever materials were needed, Johns Manville supplied debris. The debris was dumped in the location that it was needed, and an earthmover would spread the debris which would then be covered with clay and sand.

[REDACTED] said that Johns Manville used its own trucks to haul the material to the rifle pit construction site.

Asked how a decision was reached to use Johns Manville material as fill, [REDACTED] said that he did not know. [REDACTED] said that he would speculate that Mayor Sobijian had secured the cooperation of Johns Manville.

Asked if any documents were drawn up for the use of Johns Manville material at the rifle range site, [REDACTED] responded that the project was a seat of the pants operation. The Mayor had volunteered to provide the rifle range and then forgot about it. It was a rush job.

Site Conditions:

[REDACTED] said that excavation could not go too low at the site. The rifle pits were not excavated more than four feet below grade because the water table was so high. The location was an old garbage dump. When the surface sand was moved, garbage was found. [REDACTED] remembers the garbage because of the odor. [REDACTED] remembers seeing a Cat operator sitting on the Cat's tracks and eating his lunch. [REDACTED] thought it odd that the man could ignore both the garbage odor and the garbage on the tracks on which he was sitting.

Design of Rifle Pits Projects:

[REDACTED] said that he is vague on whether there were any drawings for the construction project. At the site there was a small trailer that functioned as the project office.

Three rifle pits and a backstop were constructed. The backstop is the berm.

Berm:

[REDACTED] said that only one berm was constructed at the shooting range. The berm ran north to south along the lake shore. [REDACTED] cannot recall how close to the lake the berm was sited. Asked if the berm was a 100 yards west of the lake shore, [REDACTED] responded that his best recollection is that the berm was 100 to 130 feet from the lakeshore.

The berm was 16 to 18 feet in height. The top was wide enough that a cat and scoop could drive

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along it. [REDACTED] said that he would estimate that the berm was 12 to 14 feet wide at the top. The angle of the slope of the berm was a natural gradient. [REDACTED] does not recall the width of the berm at its base. He believes that the base was equivalent to two or three Caterpillar tractors and scoops driving abreast.

Buildings:

[REDACTED] left the rifle pit construction project after the excavation and grading were complete. [REDACTED] was at the construction site when the buildings' foundations were excavated. Two buildings were constructed. A building running the length of the property from north to south was constructed for use by the competitors. A second, much smaller building was constructed for administration located at the south end of the property, near Commonwealth Avenue.

Tear Down:

[REDACTED] knows nothing about the circumstances of the destruction of the rifle range. Years later, after the buildings were demolished, [REDACTED] visited the site of the shooting range. A go-cart track was located there.

Questions:

Participants in the conference call and in the office with [REDACTED] asked him follow up questions. The information that [REDACTED] supplied is summarized below, if not already incorporated in the narrative summary of the construction of the rifle range.

Question: How deep was the fill at the construction site and how many acres, or square feet, were covered with the fill?

Answer: It varied. A berm was constructed in front of each rifle pit and there was the larger berm that was the backstop. (Note that earlier in the interview [REDACTED] said that one berm was constructed. A follow up call will be made to [REDACTED] to resolve this discrepancy.)

The shingle tabs were spread on the ground where needed to provide traction for equipment and trucks. This varied depending on the surface and the amount of use by the equipment. The berms were more built up than dug. The rifle pits were no dug no deeper than four feet because of the water table.

Question: Could [REDACTED] identify the location of the pits or the berms?

Answer: [REDACTED] said that he believed that he would be unable to do so because there was nothing by which he could reference the locations. The land was level and near the lake.

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Answer: [redacted] said that he knew nothing about the demolition. After he finished his work at the rifle range construction site, Bolander construction sent him to central Illinois. From [redacted] to [redacted] straight in the early '60s. [redacted] worked on the [redacted] [redacted] [redacted].).

Answer: There was a road from the Johns Manville plant to the construction site. [REDACTED] said that there may have been a gate on the road. The road entered the rifle range near the building that the shooters used.

Answer: The railroad ties came from a Nash plant near 39th Avenue. [REDACTED] remembers backing a truck tractor and low boy three blocks to pick up the railroad ties. The major was in the cab with [REDACTED]. The crew of Lake County prisoners was riding the lowboy; they were along to load the ties. [REDACTED] remembers this vividly because he remembers thinking about what would happen if he had an accident in Wisconsin if he were driving a group of Lake County, Illinois prisoners who had no authorization to be out of Lake County.

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